

Atty Dkt. No.: 10031215-1  
USSN: 10/644,463

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1 and 2, and cancel claims 7-12, 34, 35 and 37, as shown below. A complete listing of the claims, including their current status, is set forth below.

1. **(Currently amended)** An electrospray source of ions for an analyzer comprising:

- (a) a reservoir for containing a liquid;
- (b) a manifold for containing a liquid, said manifold having a plurality of nozzles, each of said nozzles having a channel and a plurality of openings operatively connected to said channel, wherein the plurality of openings are for ejecting droplets;
- (c) a conduit connecting said reservoir to said manifold so that liquid in said manifold can flow from said reservoir through the channel of each of said nozzles and through said openings; and
- (d) a counter electrode having an electrical potential difference between said counter electrode and said openings, said electrical potential difference and the size of said openings being sufficient to enable said liquid to be ejected from said openings in droplets and to enable ions to be ejected from said droplets.

2. **(Currently amended)** The electrospray source of ions as recited in claim 1, wherein there is a plurality of reservoirs and a plurality of conduits for ~~connected~~ connecting said reservoirs to said manifold.

3. **(Original)** The electrospray source of ions as recited in claim 1, wherein said nozzles are arranged in a pattern so that each of said nozzles is substantially evenly spaced from adjacent nozzles.

4. **(Original)** The electrospray source of ions as recited in claim 1, further comprising an electrode for producing an electric potential at said reservoir to induce liquid flow from said reservoir to said manifold.

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5. **(Original)** The ion source as recited in claim 1, wherein the major dimension of each of said openings is from about 0.1 micrometer to about 20 micrometers.

6. **(Original)** The ion source as recited in claim 1, wherein each of said nozzles has a central longitudinal axis and the central longitudinal axes of said nozzles converge to an area in front of said nozzles.

7-12. **(Cancelled)**

13. **(Original)** An electrospray source of ions for an analyzer comprising:

- (a) a reservoir for containing a liquid;
- (b) a manifold for containing a liquid, said manifold having a plurality of openings;
- (c) a channel connecting said reservoir to said manifold so that liquid in said reservoir can flow from said reservoir to said openings; and
- (d) a counter electrode assembly having an ion passageway and an electrical potential difference between said counter electrode and said openings, said electrical potential difference and the size of said openings being sufficient to enable said liquid to be ejected from said openings in droplets and to enable ejection of ions from said droplets and transport of said ions through said ion passageway.

14. **(Original)** The ion source as recited in claim 13, wherein each of said openings is circular and has a diameter from about 0.1 micrometer to about 20 micrometers.

15. **(Original)** The ion source as recited in claim 14, wherein said manifold further comprises a plurality of spaced tips that contain said openings.

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16. **(Original)** The ion source as recited in claim 15, wherein said tips are arranged in a pattern so that each of said tips is substantially evenly spaced from adjacent tips.

17. **(Original)** The ion source as recited in claim 15, wherein said manifold comprises:

- (a) an upper housing connected to said conduit; and
- (b) a lower housing connected to said upper housing and containing said tips.

18. **(Original)** The ion source as recited in claim 17, wherein said lower housing has a plurality of apertures and a plurality of tubes comprising said tips and located in said apertures, each of said tubes having a seal at the aperture through which the tube extends.

19. **(Original)** The ion source as recited in claim 13, further comprising an electrode for producing an electric potential at said reservoir to induce liquid flow from said reservoir to said manifold.

20. **(Original)** A method for producing ions from a liquid for use in a mass analyzer comprising:

- (a) conveying said liquid from a reservoir of said liquid to a manifold;
- (b) conveying said liquid from said manifold to a plurality of openings partly and toward a counter electrode assembly having an ion passageway;
- (c) producing an electrical potential difference between the fluid at said openings and said counter electrode;
- (d) causing said liquid to be ejected from said openings in droplets and ions to be ejected from said droplets; and
- (e) causing said ions to pass through said ion passageway.

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21. **(Original)** The method as recited in claim 20, comprising conveying additional liquids from respective additional reservoirs of said additional liquids to said manifold.

22. **(Original)** The method as recited in claim 20, wherein said liquid is conveyed from said reservoir to said manifold by producing an electric potential at said reservoir.

23. **(Original)** The method as recited in claim 20, wherein the liquid is ejected from said openings toward an area forward of said openings.

24. **(Previously presented)** A mass analyzer comprising:

(a) a reservoir for containing a liquid;

(b) a manifold for containing a liquid, said manifold having a plurality of openings, wherein said manifold further comprises a plurality of spaced tips that contain said openings and wherein each of said tips has a central longitudinal axis and the central longitudinal axes of said tips converge at an area in front of said tips;

(c) a channel connecting said reservoir to said manifold so that liquid in said reservoir can flow from said reservoir to said openings;

(d) a detector for analyzing ions; and

(e) a counter electrode between said manifold and said detector and having an electrical potential difference between said counter electrode and said openings, said electrical potential difference and the size of said openings being sufficient to enable said liquid to be ejected from said openings in droplets and to enable ejection of ions from said droplets towards said detector.

25. **(Original)** The mass analyzer as recited in claim 24, wherein each of said openings is circular and has a diameter from about 0.1 micrometer to about 20 micrometers.

26. **(Cancelled)**

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27. **(Previously presented)** The mass analyzer as recited in claim 24, wherein said tips are arranged in a pattern so that each of said tips is evenly spaced from adjacent tips.

28. **(Cancelled)**

29. **(Previously presented)** The mass analyzer as recited in claim 24, wherein said manifold comprises:

- (a) upper housing connected to said conduit; and
- (b) a lower housing connected to said upper housing and containing said tips.

30. **(Original)** The mass analyzer as recited in claim 29, wherein said lower housing has a plurality of apertures and a plurality of tubes comprising said tips and located in said apertures, each of said tubes having a seal at the aperture through which the tube extends.

31. **(Original)** The mass analyzer as recited in claim 24, further comprising an electrode for producing an electric potential at said reservoir to induce liquid flow from said reservoir to said manifold.

32. **(Original)** The mass analyzer as recited in claim 24, wherein there is a plurality of reservoirs and a plurality of conduits for connecting said reservoirs to said manifolds.

33. **(Original)** The mass analyzer as recited in claim 22, wherein said nozzles are arranged in a pattern within a circular area and each of said nozzles is evenly spaced from adjacent nozzles.

34-37. **(Cancelled)**